

CLAIMS:

1. A multiple information disc housing (1) for storing information discs, the housing comprising :
- 5 - a first housing part (3) having a first housing part main wall (9), opposed first housing part lateral side walls (11A, B) and opposed first housing part transverse side walls (13-15),
 - a second housing part (5) having a second housing part main wall (17), opposed second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and opposed second housing part transverse side walls (21-23),
 - 10 - an intermediate third housing part (7) arranged between the first and second housing parts (3, 5) and having an intermediate housing part main wall (25), opposed intermediate housing part lateral side walls (27A,B) and opposed intermediate housing part transverse side walls (29, 31),
 - corner hinges for connecting the first housing part to the intermediate housing part (7) and two for connecting the second housing part (5) to the intermediate housing part
 - 15 (7), each corner hinge being formed by hinge elements,
- wherein
- the first housing part (3) is provided with hinge elements formed as first housing part hinge arms (31A,B), each first housing part hinge arm (33A,B) recessed with respect to the corresponding first housing part lateral side wall (11A, B),
 - 20 - the second housing part (5) is provided with hinge elements formed as second housing part corner recesses (35A,B), which are formed by a respective second housing part recessed hinge wall (37A,B) recessed with respect to a corresponding second housing part lateral side wall (19A,B),
 - 25 - the intermediate housing part (2) is provided with intermediate housing part hinge elements of two different kinds, of which a first kind is formed as intermediate housing part hinge arms (39A,B), which each are recessed with respect to a the corresponding intermediate housing part lateral side wall (27A,B) and aligned with a respective second housing part recessed hinge wall (37A,B), and of which a second kind is formed as intermediate housing part corner recesses (41A,B), which each are

formed by a respective intermediate housing part recessed hinge wall (43A,B) and aligned with a respective first housing part recessed hinge arm (33A,B),

- each hinge arm (33A,B; 39A,B) extends into a corresponding corner recess (35A,B; 41A,B) and is rotatably coupled to a respective recessed hinge wall (37A,B; 43A,B) to form a corner hinge, and

wherein the first housing part (3) and the intermediate housing part (7) each comprise two protection walls, first housing part hinge arm protection walls (45A,B) and intermediate housing part hinge arm protection walls (47A,B) respectively, arranged such that each respective hinge arm (33A,B; 39A,B) extends between a respective protection wall (45A,B; 47A,B) and a respective hinge wall (43A,B; 37A,B).

2. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 1, wherein in that the intermediate housing part hinge arms (39A,B) as well as the intermediate housing part corner recesses (41A,B) are provided at one and the same intermediate housing part transverse side wall (31).

3. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 1 or 2, wherein each first housing part hinge arm (33A,B) comprises:

- an outer first housing part hinge arm wall (45A,B) which is an extension of a respective first housing part lateral wall (11A,B),
- an inner first housing part hinge arm wall (49A,B) which is parallel to and spaced from the outer first housing part hinge arm wall (11A,B),
- a rear first housing part hinge arm wall (51A,B) interconnecting the outer (45A,B) and inner (49A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls and arranged substantially perpendicular to the outer (45A,B) and inner (49A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls,
- a front first housing part hinge arm wall (53A,B) interconnecting the outer (45A,B) and inner (49A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls and arranged substantially perpendicular to the outer (45A,B) and inner (49A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls and spaced from the rear first housing part hinge arm walls (51A,B) and
- a top first housing part hinge arm wall (55A,B) which is substantially an extension of the first housing part main wall (9) and is disposed perpendicularly to the outer (45A,B), inner (49A,B), rear (51A,B) and front (53A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls,

- 5 - the outer (45A,B), inner (49A,B), rear (51A,B), front (53A,B) and top (55A,B) first housing part hinge arm walls being arranged in a configuration such that together they define a right-angled open box, the opening (57) of which in the closed position of the lid part (3) is directed away from the first housing part main wall (9) and toward the intermediate housing part (7),

and wherein each intermediate housing part hinge arm (39A,B) comprises:

- 10 - an outer intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (47A,B) which is an extension of a respective intermediate housing part lateral wall (27A,B),
- an inner intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (57A,B) which is parallel to and spaced from the outer intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (47A,B),
- a rear intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (59A,B) interconnecting the outer (47A,B) and inner (57A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls and arranged substantially perpendicular to the outer (47A,B) and inner (57A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls,
- 15 - a front intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (61A,B) interconnecting the outer (47A,B) and inner (57A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls and arranged substantially perpendicular to the outer (47A,B) and inner (57A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls and spaced from the rear intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (59A,B) and
- 20 - a top intermediate housing part hinge arm wall (63A,B) which is spaced from and substantially parallel to the intermediate housing part main wall (25) and is disposed perpendicularly to the outer (47A,B), inner (57A,B), rear (59A,B) and front (61A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls,
- 25 - the said outer (47A,B), inner (57A,B), rear (59A,B), front (61A,B) and top (63A,B) intermediate housing part hinge arm walls being arranged in a configuration such, that together they define a right-angled open box, the opening (65A,B) of which in the closed position of the lid part (3) and the bottom part is directed towards the lid part (3) and away from the bottom part (5)

whereby in the closed condition of the first housing part (3) and the second housing part (5)

30 the housing (1) exhibits the general shape of a substantially fully closed rectangular right angled parallelepiped, the hinge arms (33A,B; 39A,B) being positioned in pairs one over the other at opposite rear side housing corners, the outer (45A,B; 47A,B) inner (49A,B; 57A,B), rear (51A,B; 59A,B) and front (53A,B; 61A,B) hinge arm walls of corresponding pairs of hinge arms being disposed substantially flush with each other and the top hinge arm walls

(55A,B; 63A,B) being disposed substantially flush with the first housing part main wall (9) and the second housing part main wall (25) respectively.

4. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 3, wherein the housing exhibits rounded housing corners at all of its four corners.
5. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein a retaining device (67, 69; 71, 73) for cooperation with a central aperture of a respective disc is provided at least at one side of the intermediate housing part (7) and at the inner side of the second housing part (5).
6. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein one of the hinge elements (37A,B; 43A,B) of a pair of hinge elements comprises an opening (77A,B; 79A,B) and the other hinge element comprises a stud (81A,B; 83A,B) which projects into the opening (77A,B; 79A,B).
7. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the hinge walls (37A,B; 43A,B) are rigid, and the hinge arms (33A,B; 39A,B) are resilient in a direction along a line extending between corresponding hinge arms (33A,B; 39A,B) of the lid part (3) and the intermediate housing part (7) respectively.
8. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the protection walls (45A,B; 47A,B) are of a resilient construction.
9. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the protection walls (45A,B; 47A,B) extend into corresponding corner recesses (41A,B; 35A,B) of the intermediate housing part (7) and the second housing part (5) respectively.
10. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein each of the protection walls (45A,B; 47A,B) has a respective free end portion (85A,B; 87A,B), said free end portions (85A,B; 87A,B) being bent toward one another and extending opposite, and spaced a distance from, a free end of a respective one of the hinge arms (45A,B; 47A,B).

11. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 10, wherein each of the protection walls (45A,B; 47A,B) has a fluent curved portion (85A,B; 87A,B) which merges into a corresponding free end portion and, at least when the housing (1) is in a closed state, forms a rounded transition between a corresponding lateral side (11A,B; 27A,B) and a corresponding rear side (31; 23) of the intermediate housing part (7) and the second housing part (5) respectively.
12. A multiple information disc housing (1) to any one of the previous claims, wherein the first housing part (3) includes interior tags (89) extending from respective first housing part transverse side walls (13; 15) towards each other, for retaining an inserted document (91).
13. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein the first housing part (3), the intermediate housing part (7) and the second housing part (5) are injection-molded products.
14. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein:
- the second housing part main wall (17), the opposed second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and the opposed second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23) are transparent,
 - a second housing part insert sheet (93) is arranged on the second housing part main wall (17),
 - the second housing part insert sheet (93) has upright insert sheet lateral portions (95A,B) which extend adjacent respective second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and/or insert sheet transverse portions (97, 99) which extend adjacent respective second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23).
15. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 14, wherein all the upright portions (95A,B, 97, 99) of the second housing part insert sheet have printed information thereon.

16. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and the second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23) are each formed by an at least substantially uninterrupted wall and have at least substantially the same height with respect to the corresponding second housing part main wall (17).

17. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims 14 to 16, wherein all the upright portions (95A, 95B, 97, 99) of the second housing part insert sheet (93) extend along substantially the length of the respective adjacent side wall (19A,B, 21, 23).

18. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 14, wherein:

- the construction of the intermediate housing part (7) is such that the second housing part rear wall (23) is substantially uninterrupted and has a height corresponding to the height of the second housing part front wall (21) and the second housing part lateral side walls (19A, 19B), and
- the second housing part insert sheet (93) comprises an upright portion (99) which extends adjacent the second housing part rear wall (23),
- the construction of the first housing part is such that the intermediate housing part rear wall (31) is substantially uninterrupted and has a height corresponding to the height of the intermediate housing part front wall (29) and the intermediate housing part lateral side walls (27A, 27B).

19. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of claims 14 to 18, wherein:

- the second housing part (5) includes a second housing part holding device (75) for holding at least one information disc,
- the second housing part lateral side walls (19A, 19B) and transverse walls (21, 22) are substantially uninterrupted transparent walls,
- the second housing part holding device (75) is retained in the second housing part (5) by second housing part retaining means disposed solely adjacent corners of the second housing part (5),

- the second housing part insert sheet has upright portions which extend adjacent the second housing part lateral and transverse side walls along substantially the length thereof,
- at least a section of each of the upright portions of the second housing part insert sheet extending adjacent the second housing part lateral and transverse side walls has printed information thereon and
- the intermediate housing part includes a intermediate housing part holding device for holding at least one information disc,
- the intermediate housing part side walls and transverse walls are substantially uninterrupted transparent walls,
- the intermediate housing part holding device is retained in the intermediate housing part by intermediate housing part retaining means disposed solely adjacent corners of the intermediate housing part,
- the intermediate housing part insert sheet has upright portions which extend adjacent the intermediate housing part lateral and transverse side walls along substantially the length thereof,
- at least a section of each of the upright portions of the intermediate housing part insert sheet extending adjacent the intermediate housing part lateral and transverse side walls has printed information thereon.

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20. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 19, wherein the second housing part retaining means detachably fasten the second housing part holding device (75) to the said second housing part (5).

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21. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 19 or 20, wherein the second housing part retaining means comprises a first second housing part snap closure element at a corner between the second housing part front wall (21) and one of the second housing part lateral side walls (19A, 19B), and a second housing part second snap closure element at a corner between the second housing part front wall (21) and the other of the second housing part lateral side walls.

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22. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the claims 14 to 21, wherein the second housing part insert sheet (93) has information printed on the side facing the second housing part main wall (17).

23. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to one any of the previous claims, wherein:

- 5 - the second housing part main wall (5), the opposed second housing part lateral side walls (19A, 19B) and the opposed second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23) are transparent,
- a second housing part insert sheet (93) is arranged on the second housing part main wall (17),
- 10 - the second housing part insert sheet (93) has upright insert sheet lateral portions (95A,B) which extend adjacent respective second housing part lateral side walls (19A, 19B) and/or insert sheet transverse portions (97, 99) which extend adjacent respective second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23) and
- the opposed intermediate housing part lateral side walls (27A, 27B) and the opposed intermediate housing part transverse side walls (29, 31) are opaque.

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24. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 23, wherein all the upright portions (95A,B, 97, 99) of the second housing part insert sheet (93) have printed information thereon.

- 20 25. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 23 or 24, wherein the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and the second housing part transverse side walls (21, 23) are each formed by an at least substantially uninterrupted wall and have at least substantially the same height with respect to the corresponding second housing part main wall(17).

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26. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims 23 to 25, wherein all the upright portions (95A,B, 97, 99) of the second housing part insert sheet (93) extend along substantially the length of the respective second housing part adjacent side wall (19a,b, 21, 23).

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27. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 23, wherein:

- the construction of the intermediate housing part (7) is such that the second housing part rear wall (23) is substantially uninterrupted and has a height corresponding to the

height of the second housing part front wall (21) and the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B), and

- the second housing part insert sheet (93) comprises an upright portion (99) which extends adjacent the second housing part rear wall (23) and
- 5 - the construction of the first housing part (3) is such that the intermediate housing part rear wall (31) is substantially uninterrupted and has a height corresponding to the height of the intermediate housing part front wall (29) and the intermediate housing part lateral side walls (27A,B).

10 28. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of claims 23 to 27, wherein:

- the second housing part (5) includes a second housing part holding device (75) for holding at least one information disc,
- the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B) and transverse side walls (21, 23)
- 15 are substantially uninterrupted transparent walls,
- the second housing part holding device (75) is retained in the second housing part (5) by second housing part retaining means disposed solely adjacent corners of the second housing part (5),
- the second housing part insert sheet (93) has upright portions (95A,B, 97, 99) which
- 20 extend adjacent the second housing part lateral (19A,B) and transverse (21, 23) side walls along substantially the length thereof,
- at least a section of each of the upright portions (95A,B, 97, 99) of the second housing part insert sheet (93) extending adjacent the second housing part lateral (19A,B) and transverse (21, 23) side walls has printed information thereon.

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29. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 28, wherein the second housing part (5) retaining means detachably fasten the second housing part holding device (75) to the said second housing part (5).

30 30. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 28 or 29, wherein said second housing part retaining means (75) comprises a first second housing part snap closure element at a corner between the second housing part front wall (21) and one of the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B), and a second housing part second snap

closure element at a corner between the second housing part front wall (21) and the other of the second housing part lateral side walls (19A,B).

31. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the claims 23
5 to 30, wherein the second housing part insert sheet (93) has information printed on the side facing the second housing part main wall (17).

32. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous
10 claims, wherein the intermediate housing part is an integrally formed opaque injection molded housing part (7) including an integrally formed intermediate housing part holding device (67, 69) for holding at least one information disc on at least one of its main wall (25) faces.

33. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous
15 claims, wherein the housing has the general structure of a stack of two individual shallow boxes, an upper box and a lower box, each box comprising a first housing part, a second housing part and two corner hinges arranged at the same side of the housing, and wherein the second housing part of the upper box and the first housing part of the lower box are merged into an integral intermediate housing part relative to which the first housing part of the upper
20 box and the second housing part of the lower box are hinged.

34. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to any one of the previous claims, wherein:

- the housing comprises a hinging tray part (95) for hinging movement relative to the
25 said second housing part (5), having a tray part main wall (101), opposed tray part lateral side walls (103A,B) and opposed tray part transverse side walls (105, 107) and provided with a tray part disc retaining device (71, 73) at least at one of the faces of the tray part main wall (101),
- the hinging tray part (75) is provided with hinge elements formed as tray part hinge
30 arms (109A,B), each tray part hinge arm (109A, 109B) being recessed with respect to a corresponding hinging tray part lateral side wall (103A, 103B),
- each tray part hinge arm (109A,B) being rotatably coupled to a respective said recessed second housing part hinge wall (37A,B) to form a corner hinge on a side opposite the intermediate housing part hinge arm (47A,B), such that the hinging tray

part hinge arms (109A,B) extend between and hingingly cooperate with the two recessed second housing part hinge walls (37A,B).

35. A multiple information disc housing (1) according to claim 34, wherein the
- 5 hinging tray part hinge arms (109A, 109B) are interconnected by a flat interconnecting part (115) extending in a plane parallel to the tray part main wall (101).